

## In The Alberta Legislature

(By Geo. E. Hall, M.L.A.)

The debate on the speech from the throne has been completed. In the closing days of the debate the C.C.F. moved an amendment to the Throne Speech which constituted a lack-of-confidence motion. It criticized the development of the natural resources of this province by the Social Credit government. The amendment was defeated by a very large majority with only four members voting for it.

Hon. N. E. Tanner Minister of Lands and Mines, in making reference to the amendment told the members that the statements being made by socialists regarding the development of our natural resources were not true, and that those who are making them knew they were not true. He told of having invited for the C.C.F. leader to his office to show him any of the files which pictured the records of the exploration development of our oil and gas resources. An interesting fact here is that the policy pursued by the government in the development of oil has been controlled by development in this province. The policy being advocated by the socialists here is not working in Saskatchewan, and has been discarded by the socialists there as unworkable. Manitoba today has more oil exploration work going on and more development than did province of Saskatchewan.

The budget was brought down by Premier Manning this past week. The estimated expenditure for the coming year exceeds \$530 millions—the highest in the history of the province. There are to be no new taxes imposed and there will be no increase in the province's debt. On the contrary the provincial debt will be further reduced this year. It was reduced by \$17,000,000 last year. Old age pensioners will receive an increase of \$2.00 per month, paid by the provincial government. This will be in addition to the \$5.00 now paid entirely by the province, and will bring the income pension to \$37 per month for those who have reached the age of 70 years.

School grants will be increased by one-half million dollars, the special grant of \$320,000 will be made for the Teachers Pension Retirement Plan. One-half million for a T.B. sanatorium, and an equal amount for a new agricultural school. The amount appropriated for highway construction is again greater than the entire revenue from fuel oil taxes, motor and truck licenses and drivers' licenses.

The income to the province has risen each year as more and better roads are built. The amount appropriated for new highway construction for the coming year is \$8,800,000. While it has been suggested by some that the province is suffering for a deficit of \$8,300,000, this is not correct. A deficit would increase the debt of the province, and such will not be the case in Alberta. The surplus on income account will be \$8,700,000. This, with \$6,500,000 from surpluses and \$1,800,000 from capital receipts, will make \$15,000,000 for capital expenditure. This includes the construction of bridges, highways, roads and buildings.

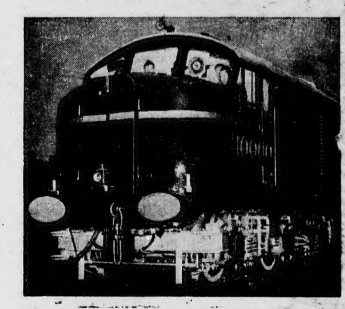
Many new bills have been introduced to the house, and will be given attention as soon as the budget is cleared away.

Next week I will endeavor to give you the highlights of some of these bills.

## Course of Communism

A few short years ago the people of the world were concerned with the advances of one Adolf Hitler and his National-Socialist Party as they took over, with a great display of military power, a country after country on the European continent. One of these countries which fell under the heel of Hitler was Russia. Russia was the second time for a former Nazi ally and enemy—Soviet Russia. Recently word was flashed around the world that Russian trained Communists had seized control of Czechoslovakia and that the democratic leaders of the country had been ousted from power. Thus again for the second time in a decade the people of that country have been made to come under a powerful and ruthless police regime.

Czechoslovakia's downfall cannot but be regarded as a great tragedy in the western world and a danger



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caution in the minds of democratic people. It is a blow to democracy itself.

Canadians cannot remain aloof to what is happening in Czechoslovakia today no matter how they would like to. They are as much a target for Communist domination as the relatively small country which has been swallowed up in the latest Russian inspired Communist coup. Everyone in Canada must beware of the radical disturbing element in its midst. It is they who are the possibility of following in Czechoslovakia's footsteps. Communism is a very active force in this country. It thrives on licentiousness and disturbances and it is therefore important that we shun persons who advocate revolutionary changes and for whom nothing in the country is ever right.

Communism and its attendant evil for no myth—it is stark reality and its tactics are every bit as insidious as those of the Nazis. It is a threat to the peace and stability of our country.

## Flax Seed

Growers who are planning to sow flax this year are warned to get seed supplies early, if they have not already done so in bulk. The National Flax and Linseed Flax Committee. Another large acreage is in sight for this profitable cash crop which is urgently needed for industrial purposes in Canada and for export.

Professor T. J. Harrison, chairman of the National Flax and Linseed Flax Committee, has drawn the attention of prospective flax growers to varieties which are suitable for areas in the three prairie provinces. Tests conducted by the Dominion Experimental Farms and Extension Service at Manitoba, Department of Agriculture listed of the three leading varieties. In Manitoba, Rocket gave an average yield of 127 bushels to the acre. Dakota 125 bushels and Royal 117 bushels to the acre. A noticeable difference in maturity at the time of harvest was disclosed in the Manitoba tests. Rocket and Dakota were uniformly ripe while Royal contained a number of plants still in bloom which probably accounted for the lower yields of Royal.

Interesting a useful information for flax growers is also contained in a bulletin issued by the Saskatchewan Cereal Variety Committee which lists varieties which are suitable for the province as determined by soil and climate.

Royal, a leading variety is reported to be moderately resistant to wilt and rust but is susceptible toasmus. Royal is a higher yielder but it is late maturing and has slightly weak straw.

Rodwing is resistant to wilt, and susceptible to rust andasmus. It is lower in yield than Royal but it is mature a week earlier. It is recommended where early maturity is essential.

Dakota is highly resistant to wilt and rust and appears to be susceptible toasmus. Dakota matures earlier and more uniformly than Royal. It is slightly lower in yield than the latter.

Professor Harrison also mentions a new promising variety "Siberian" which is described by W. G. McGregor, cerealist of central experiment station as an early variety maturing, with resistance but more disease resistant. It is recommended for northern areas.

## Women's Curling Club Bonspiel Successful Affair

The Ladies Curling Club held a bonspiel Friday and Saturday afternoon in the town of Gleichen. It was necessary to call a halt owing to the mild weather making the ice soft. Late that evening play was resumed and it was about seven o'clock next morning before the last rock was thrown.

There were rinks entered from Bassano, Strathmore, Lethbridge and the Lethbridge rink was shipped by a former Gleichen resident Mrs. O. Wilson. Another former Gleichen resident on the same rink was Mrs. D. Bond.

The visiting rinks were loud in their praise of the hospitality shown them by the local ladies and felt right at home.

Following is a list of the winning rinks:

First event Grand Challenge: 1st Mrs. Wilson, Lethbridge; 2nd Mrs. McMillan, Gleichen; 3rd Mrs. J. Wilson, Gleichen; 4th Mrs. Bassano, Gleichen.

Second event, Merchants: Mrs. McMillan; 2nd Mrs. Bennett, Strathmore; 3rd Mrs. W. Schmidt; 4th Mrs. Bob Brown.

Third event: 1st Miss Happy Mathison; 2nd Mrs. Hutton.

Fourth event: 1st Mrs. Wilson, Lethbridge; 2nd Mrs. Jones, Strathmore.

Why be disappointed when a classed flax can bring you quick results?

While in town attending the ladies bonspiel Mrs. D. Bond called on many of her old friends. Her husband was for some years manager of Shoprite store here from which he resigned to go into the insurance business.

More Trade—More Jobs is the slogan selected for World Trade Week in Canada, to be observed from May 30 to June 6, this year. It is sponsored by a number of national and international trade organizations, whose members are trying to stimulate a greater interest in the development of Canadian foreign commerce. The fact that it is to be held during the period of the Canadian International Trade Fair should add to the impact and success of the trade week. In a world where all nations are interdependent, it is important that there be sufficient exports to satisfy the needs of our neighbors and imports to fill our own needs. This exchange of goods encourages mutually friendly relations, and an appreciation of the problems of other countries. The purpose of trade week is to direct public attention to the potential contribution of world trade to employment and general well being at home. It is to learn from one another what must be done to develop and strengthen participation in that trade.

## The Fire Hazard

The tragic story of death by fire has been written with disturbing frequency across Canada this winter. Scarcely a day has passed since the beginning of the year without its tale of a family trapped in a blazing home. Sometimes the occupants manage to escape; too often one or more are burned to death; whole families perished in some cases. Year after year

these tragedies repeat themselves, despite the words of caution broadcast by safety authorities with the coming of cold weather. And yet nothing seems to have been done by anyone to remove the major cause of most winter fires.

It is not hard to understand that Canadians cannot be legislated out of existence and that little can be done to remove this cause other than by painstaking education and, perhaps by punishment of criminal negligence. Similarly, it would be difficult to achieve better protection for remote farm houses without passing an intolerable financial burden on rural areas. But in built-up urban areas, it should be possible to reduce the fire hazard considerably below its present level by the enactment and enforcement of adequate protective laws.

Building by-laws are only one part of the answer. Many cities and towns have kept well abreast of the times in this respect and the safeguards they demand are recognized by underwriters as a significant factor in lowering fire and a minimum risk.

Yet day after day, reports of fires continue to list such causes as "defective heating system; overheated furnace pipes and overheated stove." There are those who see in such phrases not an explanation of cause, but merely a symptom of the fundamental defect. Their belief is—and facts would seem to bear them out—that too many homes are equipped with heating systems inadequate for the task they must perform. In other words, while furnaces are built to certain specifications they are frequently installed in buildings that are beyond their capacity to heat. When real cold weather comes, such stoves and furnaces must be forced to produce the needed warmth; pipes become overheated and a configuration follows.

The hazard created by installing a furnace designed to heat a building of 25,000 cubic feet, in a building

## TENDER CALLS

Sealed tenders for the purchase of the property known as the W. W. Brown property, Lots 6 and 7, Block 18, Gleichen, will be received up until noon, April 5th, 1948.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Tenders to be addressed to the Secretary, Town of Gleichen.

half as large again, should be expected to any one. And yet ordinary municipal building codes offer no protection against this danger. Until the installation of heating systems is as carefully controlled as other building practices, fires due to overheated pipes and furnaces will continue to exact their toll of life and property.

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## Town & District

Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh are the proud parents of twelve a girl and boy. They arrived last Thursday.

Mrs. H. James has returned from the Bascom hospital much improved in health. She had been confined to the hospital for the past month.

We hope the snow plow crews are properly accommodating when they arrive at driveways of those who wanted a record accumulation of snow.

David McLean "caterpillar" to town from his farm Saturday afternoon. Dave said a tractor could not get through the snow drifts and so he wanted to get to town since he hadn't been in for sometime ordered out the caterpillar and hitched a slash and behind. The caterpillar went over and

through the snow with ease.

O. Desjardins returned to town Saturday after an extended trip to the States.

A carload of new waterfalls for the town arrived Tuesday and other shipments are enroute. Pistons, oil-bows and joints arrived sometime ago. Work on the new water system may start this summer.

Miss D. Brown, R.N., left Sunday night for Regina where she has accepted a position as a travelling nurse with the Saskatchewan government. Miss Brown has for some months past been on the nursing staff of the Blackfoot Indian hospital. She had been spending the past couple of weeks visiting her home in Arrowwood and since there is no traffic from there to Gleichen on account of the snow she hired an airplane to bring her to town to catch the train.

The Gleichen Aces were defeated by the Acme Hustlers 1-0 at the Gleichen arena last Friday. This meant that the Acme club won the inter-high school hockey championship and cup which Gleichen won last year. The Herald says the feature of the game was the outstanding performance of the Campen-Barabash-Yellowknife line for Gleichen which played the entire third period without substitution. The winning goal came off the stick of Carvey who was assisted by E. Garay and Brown. After the game the cup was presented to the Acme club by the captain of the Gleichen team. Quite a number of high school boys went along to lend their support to the team.

## EASTER

### SPECIAL LOW RAIL FARES

GO: Anytime Thursday, March 25, to and including 2 p.m. Monday, March 29.  
RETURN: Leave destination not later than 12 midnight, Tuesday, March 30.  
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### FROM THE FILES OF THE CALL TWENTY YEARS AGO

Jack Schmidt has left Gleichen to make his home at Rosemary Hall. Tractor fenders are getting busy, while the combine is moving northward to Peace River.

R. S. McQueen has returned from a visit to his home in Ontario, where he disposed of a big band of horses he took east with him.

A. D. Betty and his daughter of Lethbridge were in town looking after his property just east of town.

Chris Bartsch was down from Calgary for a few days last week looking after his business interests here. He intends to leave for the Peace River country soon.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Gooderham and children have returned from Toronto where they have been for the past three months.

Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Jones have returned from a vacation of about two months in the southern States. It was Mr. Jones' first visit to his boyhood home in Tennessee in forty years, and he found great changes. Both he and his wife thoroughly enjoyed themselves and look it.

A visitor to Gleichen the other day expressed surprise that our young Blackfoot Indian boys and girls were dressed in the height of fashion. This is easy to explain when it is known the reserve is a small and efficient white staff to guide them in their farming and other business generally.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Bolinger, who have been farming east of town are returning to Colorado to farm.

Geo. Harding left Monday with two carloads of livestock, farm implements, household effects, etc., to make his future home in the Peace River country. His wife and family will follow shortly.

The opinion is expressed by many people that some are going too heavy on tractors and may long for the steel old boss back again. However the

tractor is a great asset under right conditions and may save a lot of work and worry.

Hoegre and House shipped five more carloads of work horses and farm machinery Monday to the Peace River country and will offer them for sale at auction at Spirit River and Sexsmith.

Mr. L. Smith of Cluny has purchased the hardware business of W. H. James, and in future will operate under the name of the Gleichen Hardware.

One day last week a very serious school whereby Glen Anglin was so unfortunate he lost an eye. It appears he was coming around the school when some of the boys shot a cartridge with a slingshot against the brick wall causing it to explode and a particle of the shell struck the little fellow in the eye.

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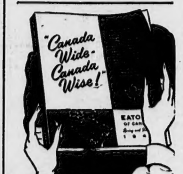
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For full explanation see the Nationalities for Service and Summer, 1948, page 497.

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